

IN THE CLAIMS:

a. Please cancel claims 1-6

b. Please enter the following claims:

1-6. (canceled)

7. (new) A three-dimensional model, comprising:

a membranous model replicating a body cavity;

a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model, and wherein the elasticity of the base material is sufficient to allow deformation of the membranous model; and

a translucent casing accommodating the base material.

8. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 7, wherein said body cavity comprises a blood vessel.

9. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 7, wherein the membranous model is formed of a silicone elastomer or a urethane elastomer.

10. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 7, wherein the base material is formed of a silicone gel or a urethane gel.

11. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 7, wherein a refractive index of the membranous model is substantially equal to a refractive index of the base material.

12. (new) A three-dimensional model, comprising:

a membranous model replicating a body cavity; and

a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model.

13. (new) The three-dimensional model of claim 12, wherein the membranous model is formed of a silicone elastomer or a urethane elastomer and the base material is formed of a silicone gel or a urethane gel.
14. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 12, wherein a refractive index of the membranous model is substantially equal to a refractive index of the base material.
15. (new) A three-dimensional model, comprising:
 - a membranous model replicating a body cavity; and
 - a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model,wherein the membranous model is formed of a translucent material and the base material is formed of a material of sufficient elasticity to allow deformation of the membranous model without producing substantial resistance thereto.
16. (new) The three-dimensional model of claim 15, wherein the membranous model is formed of material capable of producing an observable photoelastic effect.
17. (new) The three-dimensional model according to claim 15, wherein the membranous model has an annular shaped cross-section having a substantially uniform thickness.
18. (new) A stress observation system, comprising:
 - a three-dimensional model containing a membranous model replicating a body cavity; and

a means for detecting a photoelastic effect generated by light that transmits through or is reflected by said membranous model.

19. (new) The observation system of claim 18, wherein said three-dimensional model further comprises a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model.

20. (new) The observation system of claim 18, wherein said membranous model has an annular shaped cross-section having a substantially uniform thickness and a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model.

21. (new) A method for observing stress of a three-dimensional model, the method comprising the step of detecting a photoelastic effect generated by light that transmits through or is reflected by a membranous model contained within said three-dimensional model.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of providing a three-dimensional model that contains a membranous model and a translucent base material surrounding the membranous model, said translucent base material being elastic and in adhesive contact with the membranous model, before said step of detecting a photoelastic effect.